

TOP SECRET

25X

12 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 12 September 1969

The Director was at the White House. DDCI was in the chair.

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Godfrey briefed on the Arab-Israeli situation and noted that the Israelis once again raided Ras Gharib. He pointed to evidence that Egyptian bomber aircraft stored in Algeria are being returned to Egypt.

Godfrey noted that there is not much to add to yesterday's Chou/Kosygin meeting and that reportage over the weekend will probably be dependent upon the analysis of propaganda emanating from both sides.

D/ONE reported that galley proofs of NIE 11-8 are in hand and will go to the printer this afternoon. He mentioned that NIE 11-3 is encountering some difficulty due to differences of opinion on Soviet civil defense.

ADD/S related that he met yesterday with GAO concerning results of their survey of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] They will not initiate their proposed follow-on action without further contact with us. He pointed to this GAO initiative as a welcome indication that GAO is sensitive to the security implications involved.

Carver mentioned the work which went into the preparation of the Director's briefing book for today's session on Vietnam at the White House. He noted that he will be meeting with the DDCI later in the day

[REDACTED]

Parrott forecast a number of requirements from the three PFIAB panels concerned with assessing the Soviet threat in response to Presidential directive.

TOP SECRET

25

TOP SECRET

25X

DD/S&T called attention to coverage of Soviet nuclear testing in the
Periscope section of the 15 September issue of Newsweek. He added

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[REDACTED]

DD/P reported that General Maxwell Taylor was briefed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and that the briefing went well.

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[REDACTED]

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L. K. White

TOP SECRET

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THE PERISCOPE

LAIRD: PLAYING THE NUMBERS GAME

Defense Secretary Laird's estimate that the military can afford to cut back some 100,000 men was deceptively—and deliberately—low. Defense analysts actually are working toward a figure of 250,000 fewer men in uniform by July. This would give a strength of 3,200,000. The exact figure depends largely on President Nixon's timetable for troop withdrawal from Vietnam.

CHANGE IN POW POLICY

The news conference last week at which two former U.S. prisoners of war accused Hanoi of cruelty reflected a change in Administration policy regarding public disclosure of the treatment of POW's. During the Johnson Administration, the Defense Department policy was to mute any criticism so as not to provoke Hanoi into acts against POW's still in prison. Now Defense chief Melvin Laird has obtained President Nixon's support for a graphic campaign to expose North Vietnam for inhumanity to prisoners. It was Laird himself who carefully arranged for the two Navy men to meet the media last week at Bethesda Naval Hospital.

U.S.S.R.: TESTING, TESTING

The Russians secretly tested a 20-kiloton nuclear device on Sept. 2 about 60 miles southwest of Perm in the Perm Region. It was the eighth underground Soviet atomic test this year—and the 76th such blast since the atmospheric test ban of 1963 . . . On the same date the Russians began a new series of ABM tests—most likely of the super-Galosh anti-missile system. Two firings of the large interceptor missiles with dummy warheads from a test center in the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic were detected. The missiles were right on target.

CASE OF THE HARVARD FIVE

An issue that has pitted the Harvard faculty against the Harvard Corporation, the university's seven-man governing body, threatens to disrupt the Ivy League school this fall. The issue is over the reappointment as teaching fellows of five graduate students who were involved in the demonstrations at Harvard last April. There was not enough evidence to take disciplinary action against the five—and their respective departments reappointed them. But the Harvard Corporation, which usually approves such faculty recommendations, **Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP80R01284A001800120076-2** department heads promptly resubmitted the rec-

ommendations for the corporation's Sept. 15 meeting. "If the corporation remains adamant, they hand the radicals a ready-made issue," said one leading Harvard professor sadly.

WINGS FOR THE SST?

The U.S. supersonic transport, which since 1964 has taken a lot of flak and consumed \$500 million in Federal funds, may get off the ground after all. President Nixon is expected to approve continuation of the SST program once the overheated economy has begun to cool off. In order to head off further criticism of the project, the Transportation Department is urging Mr. Nixon to make a national policy statement that the SST under no circumstance will fly at supersonic speeds—and produce sonic booms—over land. A great deal of the criticism leveled at the SST was over the tremendous sonic boom produced by the 1,800-mph plane.

WHO WILL OPPOSE TEDDY IN '70?

The postponement of the inquest into the death of Mary Jo Kopechne (page 26) is delaying Massachusetts Republicans in selection of a candidate to oppose Edward M. Kennedy in next year's Senatorial race. Should the inquest findings and public opinion convince Kennedy not to seek re-election, a good bet for the GOP nomination is former governor and now Transportation Secretary John Volpe. But if Kennedy decides to run, Volpe will stay in Washington.

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR BRADLEY?

Thomas Bradley, who lost the close Los Angeles mayoral race to Sam Yorty earlier this year, is still undecided about his political future—but he is not suffering from a lack of offers. California Democratic leaders have offered to support the 51-year-old Negro city councilman next year for lieutenant governor, attorney general or secretary of state.

NADER'S RAIDERS PLANS

Crusader Ralph Nader is so delighted by the success of his 130 collegiate "raiders" that he is already planning even bigger raids on state government agencies and industry next year. During the summer the raiders accused government officials of numerous misdeeds—such as suppressing reports on unsanitary packing-house conditions and failure to enforce truck safety regulations. Now the raiders—mostly law students—have returned to school. And Nader himself is finishing